Appln No. N/A Amdt dat August 20, 2003

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

It is respectfully requested that the foregoing preliminary amendment be entered prior to examination.

Attention is also called to the enclosed Declaration. The inventors declaration, due to a mis-understanding, incorrectly indicates that the parent U.S. application 09/882,350 is abandoned. In fact an extension of time is being filed so that the parent application is co-pending with the subject application. A corrected Declaration will be filed shortly.

Respectfully submitted,
CHRISTIE, PARKER & HALE, LLP

D. Bruce Prout

Reg. No. 20,958 626/795-9900

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